

Letter of the Day: Think of planet like a greenhouse

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Section: LETTERS

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Body

I think Larry Roosdahl is on the right path with his explanation of global warming in his letter "Carbon dioxide vs. Mother Nature." However, there are a couple of items he hasn't factored in. The greenhouse is a good analogy. The atmosphere does for earth what the glass does for the greenhouse. It lets light in and blocks some heat from leaving. If you mess with the delicate balance of gases in the atmosphere there are bound to be some consequences.

I don't pretend to be an expert, but my understanding is that the fossil fuel in the ground is complex hydrocarbons created by the photosynthesis process Larry Roosdahl explained. Apparently fossil fuels are a culmination of thousands if not millions of years of stored up energy from the sun. Now given that a daily dose of sunshine will take the chill off the air in a greenhouse, what would the effect be if we added a few thousand years of sunshine to that greenhouse all at once? Much like we are doing to the earth with the burning of fossil fuels. I'm thinking Larry Roosdahl has a limited understanding of global warming.

Murray Marien

Saskatoon

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